Moonlight Night Drawing: Silhouettes and Cast Shadows

Topic reference / ordinary illustration



Ordinary topic reference. Hypothetical dimensions in the four tasks are supplied in their own text; this illustration is not their measured answer.

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Worked example / complete source key

A moon center is 6 cm above the horizon. A tree silhouette is 4 cm tall and stands on the horizon. Using the convention that shadow length equals twice the object height for a low moon, draw the shadow direction and length.

Answer: Draw a line from the moon center through the tree base. The shadow points away from the moon along that line. Shadow length is 4 cm times 2 equals 8 cm. Mark 8 cm from the tree base along the shadow line and shade the shadow darker than the ground.